

DISTANCE MARKETING DIRECTIVE (DMD) Effective 15th February 2005

When do the regulations apply?

They apply where a contract for financial services (including life assurance products) is arranged on an organised distance sales basis.

What is a "distant sale"?

It is defined as a sale that is arranged, using means of communication by which the consumer and the supplier (e.g. intermediary) are not in each other's presence i.e. where the contract is arranged exclusively by post, internet or telephone and where there is no face to face meeting between the intermediary and the customer.

Do the regulations apply if the intermediary meets the customer during the course of arranging the contract?

Once a face-to-face meeting has taken place in the course of arranging the contract, it is not considered a "distant sale".

What do the regulations require?

They specify that where a distant sale has taken place that certain information is provided to the customer within a reasonable time before the customer is bound by the contract. It must be provided by the intermediary prior to completion of the sale.

What information must be given to the customer prior to completion of the contract?

- Intermediary's Terms of Business Letter
- The product brochure
- The generic Customer Information Notice or C.I.N.
- The product Terms and Conditions
- Additional information included in Schedule 1 of the regulations that is not included in the brochure or CIN. The Irish Life Schedule 1 can be found separately under this section. It can be printed and given to the customer